

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are before the Examiner. Claim 14 has been withdrawn. Claims 24-32 were cancelled in a prior response.

ELECTION/RESTRICTION

The Office Action requires an election of species under 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Office Action states that an election of a carrier, water generating agent, matrix and resilient polymer must be made.

The Office Action states that claims 1-13 and 15-23 are generic. Applicants elect the following species for examination:

- Porous carrier polymer is **polypropylene**;
- Solid water-generating agent is **Epsom salt**;
- Matrix component is at least **polyolefin**; and
- Resilient polymer component is at least **ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymer**.

This species reads on claims 1-13, 14 and 15-23.

The Office Action further states that the species elected above does not read on claim 14. Applicants respectfully disagree. Claim 14 states that the resilient polymer component is an "ethylene interpolymers." The specification as filed defines an "ethylene interpolymers" as a ethylene-containing polymer where the "ethylene-derived units are the major constituent by weight %" and density of from 0.86 to 0.915 g/cc. This definition encompasses the election of species made above.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully solicit a prompt notice of allowance. Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

December 3, 2007

Date

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